

**THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE  
PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:**

- 5 1. A method of preventing air bypass in a filter bank,  
comprising of the steps of:
- providing a filter bank having a filter track which  
receives filters in side by side relation inserted through an  
access opening;
- 10 providing rectangular filter panels, each filter panel  
having an opposed pair of first sides, an opposed pair of  
second sides, two opposed faces, and a width between the two  
opposed faces;
- providing "I" shaped connectors having a length
- 15 substantially the same as the length of the opposed pair of  
second sides of the filter panels and opposed channels having  
an inner dimension substantially equal to the width of the  
filter panels; and
- inserting the filter panels through the access opening
- 20 into the filter bank and sequentially connecting the filter  
panels in side by side relation with the "I" shaped  
connectors by placing the second sides of adjoining filter  
panels into the opposed channels of the "I" shaped  
connectors, such that the positioning of the "I" shaped
- 25 connector prevents air bypass between the sides of adjacent  
filter panels.

2. A filter assembly, comprising:

5 a filter bank having a filter track which is adapted to receive more than one filter arranged in side by side relation through an access opening;

rectangular filter panels, each of the filter panels having an opposed pair of first sides, an opposed pair of second sides, two opposed faces, and a width between the two opposed faces;

10 " I" shaped connectors having a length substantially the same as the length of the opposed pair of second sides of the filter panels and opposed channels having an inner dimension substantially equal to the width of the filter panels; and

15 the filter panels being connected in side by side relation with the " I" shaped connectors with the second sides of adjoining filter panels in the opposed channels of the " I" shaped connectors, such that the positioning of the " I" shaped connector prevents air bypass between the sides of adjacent filter panels.